

OREGON CROP WEATHER



OREGON
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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Weather: Generally, the beginning of last week featured warmer and dryer conditions, whereas the end of the week saw a return to rain and cooler temperatures, especially in north-central and northeast Oregon. Southern Oregon received little or no precipitation, along with warm temperatures in the eighties and even the lower nineties. Rome recorded a high temperature of 93 degrees for the week, along with 127 growing degree days (base 50). Several brush fires occurred in Josephine County. The late-week showers in the Willamette Valley were mostly widespread and welcome.

Field Crops: Producers were busy putting up hay, spraying weeds and preparing equipment for harvest last week. Rain late in the week, however, slowed fieldwork in many areas, especially in the west. Crops continued to develop ahead of the 5 year average pace. As of June 6, 84 percent of the winter wheat and 58 percent of the spring wheat was headed or beyond. In Marion County, most grass seed crops are in the middle of pollination, with the exception of the bentgrasses. One night with below freezing temperatures last week may have affected alfalfa growth in Lake County.

Vegetables: Heat loving vegetable crops benefitted from the favorable weather. Tomatoes and snap beans are growing well in most counties. Sweet corn is emerging and looking good. Klamath County reports that potatoes are 90 percent planted and 33 percent emerged. Potatoes are looking healthy. Asparagus picking will be complete by the end of the week in Umatilla County. Rhubarb harvest is almost complete. Onion crop is in good shape.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nursery operations are moving into a summer maintenance mode of operation, which includes irrigating, weed control, and moving potted plants. Greenhouses are still moving some late plant material to retail outlets and getting ready for their fall crops. Preparation of new Easter lily beds continue on the southern Oregon Coast.

Fruit and Nuts: Strawberry harvesting in the Willamette Valley continued, with strong sales at roadside stands. Cranberries are in bloom on the southwestern Oregon coast. The sweet cherry harvest began in Wasco County with the harvest of the Chelan variety; harvesting should also begin soon in Umatilla County and the Willamette Valley. Rains over the weekend may have caused some damage to cherries in the lower Hood River Valley. Pears are growing well in Jackson County, where cover sprays were still being applied. Grapes began to form in Sherman County. Blueberries were sizing very nicely.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Most rangeland and pastures remained in good condition throughout the State. Pastures in western Oregon were reported mostly in the good category with adequate growth. Some ranches were preparing pasture irrigation equipment. Eastern Oregon reported most rangeland and pastures in the fair to good categories. Precipitation received over the past several weeks has helped sustain rangeland. Producers were busy rotating pastures as some lower elevation annual pasture grasses began to dry down. Livestock were reported in good condition across the State.

Crop Progress - Week Ending 6/6/04

	This week	Previous week	Last year	5 year average
Barley emerged (%)	94	88	91	—
Barley headed (%)	22	—	33	—
Spring wheat headed (%)	58	—	—	—
Winter wheat headed (%)	84	72	67	68
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.4	4.8	—	—

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 6/6/04

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil (%)	1	28	70	1
Subsoil (%)	5	39	56	—

Crop Condition - Week Ending 6/6/04

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat (%)	1	9	33	49	8
Barley (%)	—	2	28	59	11
Range & Pasture (%)	2	9	34	49	6

CLACKAMAS: Winter wheat headed and looking good. Grass hay fields will be ready to cut when appropriate weather arrives. Strawberry picking now at peak, with good yields being reported. Raspberry harvest not to far away if temperatures warm up. Vegetable planting, growth, and harvest has benefitted from the moderate weather conditions during the past week. Greenhouse and nursery sales activity seasonally slow. Livestock remain in good condition, with pasture output still adequate in most cases.

COOS/CURRY: Cranberries in bloom and fruit setting stages of development. Preparation of new Easter lily beds continued. Grass silage making continued. Some ranches getting ready to irrigate pastures. Livestock good. Pastures mostly good. Precipitation was mostly insignificant. Average air temperatures at coastal AgriMet weather stations ranged from 56.4 deg F at Brookings-Harbor to 57.3 deg F at Bandon; highs ranged from 64.9 to 73.3 deg F, and lows ranged from 44.2 to 46.5 deg F. Precipitation ranged from 0.05 inches at Brookings-Harbor to 0.13 inches at Bandon. Growing degree days (base 50 deg F) ranged from 54 GDD at Bandon to 56 GDD at Brookings-Harbor.

JACKSON: Most grass and alfalfa cutting underway. Second cover sprays and irrigation being applied. Grain crops looking good and are about 1 to 2 weeks ahead of normal. Pears growing well. Still lots of cover sprays being put on pears and apples. Wild blackberries are in full blossom. Some fruit thinning being done. Tomatoes growing well. Lots of corn now up and looking good. Greenhouses busy still with vegetable and flower starts. Some doing variety flower pots for retail sales. Nurseries busy with plant and tree watering, feeding, and their plant upkeep. Still very good pastures for livestock. All livestock on good pastures looking excellent. Still some branding marking being done, getting ready for higher range pastures. This was a very busy week for haying. The weather was a bit cool, but a good wind was blowing to dry the hay.

JOSEPHINE: Fire season officially started and we had several brush fires in the area. Warm days; blustery, drying winds with warm nights. Hay fields are being cleared and the stubble is dry on some of the fields. Cutting has been slow due to threatening weather but no precipitation. Too hot for strawberries. Their production is down and sales are off. Still planting heat loving vegetables and annuals in the landscapes. Irrigation is in full swing in truck and home gardens and in the fields. Blueberries are thriving. Nurseries are doing a brisk business.

LANE/LINN/BENTON: Hay still being harvested. Early cherries in the market. Predict around June 15 for full cherry harvest. No cherry fruit fly emergence yet. Prune crop down. Peaches are mediocre; with some there is little, with others there is a lot. Pears and apples having a large crop. Lots of apple and pear scab. Asian pears look good. Strawberries look very nice, good tasting and nice sized. The hot weather is going to shorten the season. Blueberries sizing nicely. Looks like a good crop. Blackberries and raspberries having a mediocre to huge crop. Hazelnuts look small to moderate. Lots of vegetable plants still being planted. Cool evenings are affecting tomato and other warm season plant's growth. Cool season plants and early planted varieties doing good. The cool weather has slowed greenhouse and nursery purchases. April was a record month. For May and early June, the sales fell off greatly.

MARION: Most field crops are progressing about normal for this time of year. Most grass seed species are in the middle of pollination, except for the bentgrasses. Rust control sprays are being made as needed. Quite a few grass seed fields are being irrigated, although the rain last week helped in some areas. Weather has been showery for the last two days of this week. Snap beans are growing and sweet corn is beginning to emerge.

MULTNOMAH: Widespread welcome showers Friday through Sunday. Some hay caught out in the Friday night shower. A few producers did get some hay made during the mid-week warm days.

WASHINGTON: Alfalfa cutting ongoing, with some rain damage. Field corn growing well; grass for seed maturing. Grass hay down; crimson seed heads looking good; red clover rebounding after hay silage cutting. Strawberries sweet and doing well at roadside stands; commercial picking in full harvest mode. Cherries coloring well; prunes set looks good. Hazelnuts could be bumper crop; kiwi looking good. Sulphur spray done on grapes; caneberries setting fruit. Sweet corn close to closing rows in early planting; tomatoes growing well; rhubarb mostly harvested; potatoes looking healthy. Greenhouse and nurseries irrigating and moving potted plants, digging and shipping shrubs. Range holding up to grazing about normal; livestock doing well. Buffalo calving finished and looking good. Low of 44 degrees and high of 80; some rain in later part of week.

YAMHILL: The warmer weather has hastened maturity on all tree fruits.

EASTERN OREGON

BAKER: We had ice Saturday morning, but no reported damage. Planting of field crops finished. Good rain.

HARNEY: Some hay beginning to be cut. Still irrigating alfalfa and meadow hay. Pastures still green. Hot days beginning to turn cheatgrass. Hotter days this week in the eighties. More grasshopper hatches reported.

HOOD RIVER: Fair weather with calm winds during much of the week provided growers with an opportunity to catch up on orchard spraying. Weekend rains likely to result in some damage to cherries in the lower Hood River Valley.

KLAMATH: Temperatures were warmer than the previous week. No precipitation during the week and favorable overnight temperatures. Potato crops are emerging; grain and onion crops look good. Many farmers took advantage of the favorable weather and began harvesting the first cutting of alfalfa. First hay cut, and grass and alfalfa were underway, one week earlier than usual. Potatoes 90 percent planted 33 percent emerged. Pasture to pasture movement and higher elevation turn out continue.

LAKE: No precipitation received last week. Pasture conditions look good. One night below freezing last week that affected the alfalfa growth.

MALHEUR: Most crops look good. Some recovering from hail damage. Temperatures this week were hot after two weeks of cool temperatures and showers. Spraying, cultivating and irrigating are main activities. Haying continues. Earlier showers have put most range conditions in good to excellent category. Cattle also good to excellent.

MORROW: The moisture we have had in May will help pasture at all elevations. Low elevation pastures that are primarily annuals are about done, but all other pastures will benefit from the rain. It is warming to the mid-eighties for the rest of the week. Grass should really grow.

SHERMAN: Fertilizing; spraying weeds in spring wheat; getting combines out and overhauled. Hay is finally getting baled as weather turned warmer and drier after late week showers last week. Some livestock selling with very good prices received for steers and heifers. Fall barley starting to turn, will be harvesting in June. Last week's weather was a mixed bag! Warmer than usual for the first half and cloudy with showers the last half. Cherry trees along the river are red and looking good. Grapes are just forming and look to be good also. Pastures are in good

shape with some wildflowers still blooming. If everything holds as it is now and throw in a June rain, things could be sitting pretty.

UMATILLA: Cherry harvest is about to start. Asparagus picking will probably stop within the next week. Most of the first cutting that was ruined due to wet weather is now off the fields. Some second cutting is being baled.

UNION: Crops look good. Farmers scrambling to catch up on field work delayed due to wet weather. First cutting of hay should start as soon as conditions are dry enough. Summer arrived with a vengeance at the beginning of the week, with temperatures in the high eighties and very dry conditions. By the end of the week irrigations systems were running again and some hay had been cut. However, as the week closed, cold and wet weather returned with high temperatures once again only in the sixties and scattered rain showers. Grain crops are looking good, due in part to the large amounts of rain over the last several weeks. Range and pasture lands are also in good shape, with plenty of feed at the current time.

WALLOWA: A mixture of warmth at the start of the week and moisture towards the end is again helping crop and range conditions. If we could get a few more days of sun, the crops should really start growing.

WASCO: We are estimating a sweet cherry harvest of around 26,000 tons for Wasco County. Harvest of 'Chelan', an early variety, began on June 3. Fruit set throughout The Dalles district looks nearly ideal. Only a few orchards had slightly light fruit set. Pickers started arriving in The Dalles orchards. Cherry orchard activity in both The Dalles and Dufur included spraying trees, irrigation, grass strip mowing between trees, and putting out ladders. Rain showers Saturday and Sunday frustrated orchardists with possible damage to the large cherry crop. The winter wheat crop is fully headed out, and rye roughing crews are nearing completion in grain field. Farm activities in grain crop areas included tillage and weed spraying. Some hay growers were caught with damp hay in windrows this weekend. Annual pasture grasses are still looking good, and livestock are doing well on range and pastures.

WEATHER DATA FOR SELECTED STATIONS IN OREGON WEEK ENDING June 6, 2004 (as of 11:00 am)

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS BASE-50F		LAST WEEK PRECIP			SEASON CUM PRECIPITATION			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	PCT NORMAL	DAYS
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	48	75	58	3	58	22	0.72	0.09	3	59.95	-2.20	96	176
Crescent City	47	63	56	2	45	7	0.18	-0.27	2	53.18	-9.80	84	139
Florence	40	69	57	1	47	6	0.72	0.03	2	69.23	-3.34	95	171
North Bend	46	64	58	2	57	15	0.79	0.30	2	63.52	2.74	105	163
Tillamook	42	65	56	3	47	16	2.44	1.57	3	81.47	-1.47	98	182
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Corvallis	45	82	62	5	87	28	0.18	-0.17	1	29.78	-10.65	74	126
Eugene	39	81	60	1	71	5	0.32	-0.10	2	36.83	-9.94	79	142
Hillsboro	41	83	60	2	75	12	0.57	0.22	2	29.50	-5.42	84	148
McMinnville	40	80	60	2	73	8	0.58	0.26	2	32.48	-8.76	79	147
Portland AP	47	85	63	3	96	18	0.49	0.07	2	28.02	-5.50	84	145
Salem	41	82	61	3	77	15	0.26	-0.10	2	36.10	-0.76	98	149
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	44	91	67	4	122	27	0.00	-0.18	0	27.76	-2.20	93	113
Medford	46	90	67	4	117	25	0.00	-0.18	0	18.92	1.25	107	110
Roseburg AP	47	84	64	3	96	20	0.14	-0.12	2	31.76	0.66	102	133
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	37	85	59	3	62	15	0.00	-0.28	0	15.65	3.51	129	87
Heppner	40	89	62	2	83	11	0.15	-0.13	2	12.53	0.30	102	121
Hermiston AP	38	91	64	0	103	4	0.00	-0.14	0	8.92	0.89	111	84
John Day	44	83	62	4	85	26	0.07	-0.28	1	10.08	-0.77	93	103
Moro	37	88	61	3	76	19	0.22	0.05	1	10.84	0.92	109	84
Pendleton AP	45	91	66	3	111	21	0.04	-0.16	2	12.06	1.36	113	94
The Dalles	44	92	67	8	118	57	0.06	-0.08	2	12.67	1.38	112	99
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Bend	34	89	58	5	60	22	0.07	-0.14	1	12.25	2.27	123	75
Burns AP	32	84	60	6	68	30	0.01	-0.20	1	8.12	-0.16	98	81
Klamath Falls	35	81	58	1	61	6	0.00	-0.21	0	11.47	-0.59	95	93
Lakeview	30	81	58	2	60	15	0.00	-0.34	0	8.55	-5.36	61	58
Redmond	34	88	58	3	59	13	0.03	-0.18	1	8.89	1.84	126	76
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	37	85	59	2	63	10	0.05	-0.30	2	6.67	-1.65	80	87
Joseph	34	86	57	5	50	28	0.22	-0.27	3	13.92	-7.72	64	111
La Grande AP	43	84	61	3	78	14	0.11	-0.27	1	11.99	-2.89	81	92
Union	40	85	60	4	70	20	0.17	-0.25	4	13.73	2.63	124	115
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	48	91	68	3	127	20	0.00	-0.21	0	8.09	-0.44	95	68
Rome	40	93	68	8	127	52	0.00	-0.28	0	6.49	-0.23	97	69

Summary based on National Weather Service data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Monday, September 1, 2003.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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